

RCE/3677 + #

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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
MAIL STOP RCE  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/975,088
Filing Date	October 10, 2001
First Named Inventor	Frederick Allan Hall
Art Unit	3677
Examiner Name	James R. Brittain
Attorney Docket Number	3265-011733

Sample enclosed

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

### a. Previously submitted

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on November 20, 2003  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ii. ☐ Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Petition for Extension of Time

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

### a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to credit any overpayments, to

Deposit Account No. 23-0650

- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$860.00 for the RCE filing fee (\$385) and 3-month extension (\$475)

### c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)	Nathan J. Prepelka	Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)	43,016
Signature		Date	February 11, 2004

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print / Type)	Linda C. Seger	Date	February 11, 2004
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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GROUP 3600

**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER****MS - RCE**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450Serial No.: 09/975,088Filing Date: October 10, 2001Examiner: James R. BrittainGroup Art Unit: 3677Invention: "Improvements In and Related To Karabiners"

Transmitted herewith is a Supplemental Amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☒ Small Entity Status is/has been asserted for this application under 37 CFR 1.27.  
☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27 is enclosed.  
☒ No additional fee is required.  
☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

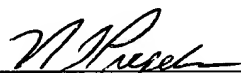
No. of Claims After <u>Amendment</u>	Highest No. Previously <u>Paid For</u>	Present <u>Extra</u>		Small Entity <u>Rate</u>	Non-Small Entity <u>Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Total <u>12</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>-0-</u>	X	\$ 9.00	X \$ 18.00	<u>\$ -0-</u>
Indep. <u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-0-</u>	X	\$ 44.00	X \$ 86.00	<u>\$ -0-</u>
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				+ \$145.00	+ \$290.00	<u>\$ -0-</u>
Total Additional Fee						<u>\$ -0-</u>

- ☒ A check in the amount of \$860.00 is enclosed to cover the filing fee (\$385) and a 3-month Petition for Extension of Time (\$475).  
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. Please refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0650.  
☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.  
☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

February 11, 2004

Date

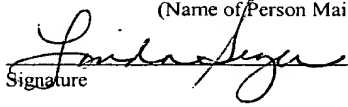
By

  
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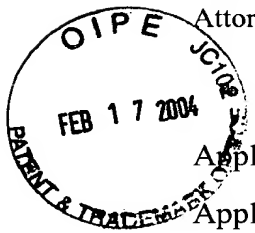
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Linda Seger  
(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

Signature

  
Date 02/11/2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/975,088  
Applicant : **Frederick Allan Hall**  
Filed : October 10, 2001  
Title : **IMPROVEMENTS IN AND RELATING TO KARABINERS**  
Group Art Unit : 3677  
Examiner : James R. Brittain  
Docket No. : 3265-011733  
Customer No. : 28289

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS RCE  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action, dated August 12, 2003, Applicant submits the concurrently-filed Request for Continued Examination, together with the following amendments and remarks, as well as a Petition for Extension of Time. Accordingly, prior to examination of the claims of the present application, please amend the claims as indicated hereinafter.

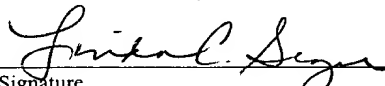
**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 5 of this document and include replacement sheet 1/1.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.

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Linda C. Seger  
(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

  
Signature

02/11/2004  
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